CLAIMS:

1. A monoclonal immuno-stimulatory antibody or an antigen binding fragment thereof, which binds to B lymphoblastoid cells and induces proliferation and activation of peripheral blood lymphocytes, the monoclonal antibody, wherein when injected into a tumor-bearing animal, elicits an anti-tumor effect.

2. A monoclonal antibody or fragment according to Claim 1, obtained by immunizing an animal with an immunogen, being selected from the group consisting of B lymphoblastoid cells, lysed B lymphoblastoid cells or membrane preparations thereof, and following the development of an immune reaction in the immunized animals, withdrawing B-lymphocytes from the animals, growing and immortalizing cell lines and selecting for such which secrete antibodies which bind to the immunogen and which are capable of inducing proliferation and activation of peripheral blood lymphocytes and eliciting an anti-tumor effect in tumor-bearing animals.

3. A monoclonal antibody or fragment according to Claim 1, having the characteristics of the monoclonal antibody produced by the hybridoma cell line deposited at the Collection Nationale de Cultures de Microorganismes (CNCM), under Accession No. I-1397.

4. A monoclonal antibody or fragment according to Claim 1, secreted by the hybridoma cell line deposited at CNCM under Accession No. I-1397.

5. An immortalized cell line secreting an antibody according to Claim 1.

6. An immortalized cell line according to Claim 5, being a hybridoma cell line.

7. A cell line according to Claim 6, secreting an antibody having the characteristics of the antibody secreted by the hybridoma cell line deposited

at the Collection Nationale de Cultures de Microorganismes (CNCM), under Accession No. I-1397.

8. A hybridoma cell line according to Claim 7, being the hybridoma cell line deposited at the CNCM under Accession No. I-1397.

9. A method of treatment of a disease or disorder, comprising administering to a subject in need an effective amount of a monoclonal antibody according to Claim 1.

10. A method according to Claim 9, wherein the disease or disorder is cancer.

11. A method according to Claim 9, wherein the antibody has the characteristics of the antibody secreted by the hybridoma cell line deposited at the Collection Nationale de Cultures de Microorganismes (CNCM) under Accession No. I-1397.

12. A method according to Claim 1, wherein the monoclonal antibody is that secreted by the hybridoma cell line deposited at the CNCM under Accession No. I-1397.

13. A pharmaceutical composition comprising, as an active ingredient, an effective amount of a monoclonal antibody according to Claim 1, and a physiologically acceptable carrier.

14. A pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 13, wherein the monoclonal antibody has the characteristics of that secreted by the hybridoma cell line deposited at the Collection Nationale de Cultures de Microorganismes (CNCM) under Accession No. I-1397.

15. A pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 14, wherein the antibody is that secreted by the hybridoma cell line deposited at the CNCM under Accession No. I-1397.

16. A pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 13, comprising also an agent other than said antibody, capable of enhancing the activity of

the cytotoxic lymphocytes, an an additive or synergistic manner to that of said antibody.

17. A proteinaceous substance to which the antibody of Claim 1 specifically binds.

18. A substance according to Claim 17, having an apparent molecular weight, as established in gel electrophoresis of about 48–50 Kilo Dalton.